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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
THE DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE AND RESEARCHTO : The Secretary
THROUGH: S/S
FROM : IIR - Thomas L. Hughes

NOV 23 1962

EXCISE

INTELLIGENCE NOTE: MOSCOW CLAIMS US HAS GIVEN NON-INVASION PLEDGE

Since the President's November 20 press conference Soviet propagandists have increasingly asserted that the US has already given a commitment not to invade Cuba. Soviet commentators interpret the President's reference to his September statement — "we shall neither initiate nor permit aggression in this hemisphere" — as constituting a valid non-invasion pledge.

Line Reversed Again. This marks the second reversal in the Soviet line on this matter. In reply to the President's October 27 letter, Khrushchev's message of the next day and follow-up propaganda held that the US had already given a non-invasion guarantee.

Now, with the announcement of the withdrawal of the H-26s, Moscow returns to the idea that a valid pledge has been made and that the Khrushchev-Kennedy bargain has thus in effect been consummated.

Contrast with Chinese Treatment. The Soviet Union's treatment of the President's press conference is diametrically opposed to that of Peking

which claimed that the President said there would be no peace in the Caribbean unless US demands for inspection and verification were met. The contrast was especially pronounced in the Polyanov Interative article of November 21 which

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attempted to dissociate the President from demands for verification and overflights, ascribing them to unnamed "extremists."

Future "actions."

(b)(1)

(a)(3)(C)

Moscow will seek to fortify the impression

of a completed bargain and thus buttress the Castro regime, preserve its own position in Cuba, neutralize Chinese attacks on Soviet-Cuban policy and, finally, use the end of the crisis as a springboard for negotiations on other subjects.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
BUREAU OF INTELLIGENCE AND RESEARCH

TO: The Secretary
THROUGH: S/S
FROM: INR - Roger Hilsman

INTELLIGENCE NOTE: MOSCOW CLAIMS US HAS GIVEN NON-INVASION PLEDGE

Since the President's November 20 press conference Soviet propagandists have increasingly asserted that the US has already given a commitment not to invade Cuba. Soviet commentators interpret the President's reference to his September statement - "we shall neither initiate nor permit aggression in this hemisphere" - as constituting a valid non-invasion pledge.

Line Reversed Again. This marks the second reversal in the Soviet line on this matter. In reply to the President's October 27 letter, Khrushchev's message of the next day and followup propaganda held that the US had already given a non-invasion guarantee.

[Excised]

Now, with the announcement of the withdrawal of the Il-28s, Moscow returns to the idea that a valid pledge has been made and the Khrushchev-Kennedy bargain has thus in effect been consummated.

Contrast with Chicom Treatment. The Soviet Union's treatment of the President's press conference is diametrically opposed to that of Peiping which claimed that the President said there would be no peace in the Caribbean unless US demands for inspection and verification were met. The contrast was especially pronounced in the Polyanov Izvestiya article of November 21 which

attempted to dissociate the President from demands for verification and overflights, ascribing them to unnamed "extremists."

Future Tactics.

[Excised]

Moscow will seek to fortify the "impression" of a completed bargain and thus buttress the Castro regime, preserve its own position in Cuba, neutralize Chinese attacks on Soviet-Cuban policy and, finally, use the end of the crisis as a springboard for negotiations on other subjects.